

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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*Interlochen Center for the Arts*

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April 25, 1997



The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room 814  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Thank you for helping ensure that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

We are excited that the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have an opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion annually will address the needs of all our schools, and the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts and Internet Service Provider costs is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Over 70% of our students receive financial assistance to attend our school. They need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

*Richard F. Odell*

Richard F. Odell  
President

RFO/lm

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**MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**RR 1 BOX 314  
HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA 16651**

**James J. Lebda, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools**

**Scott E. King  
Assistant Superintendent**

**EX PARTE OR LATE FILED** Cheryl L. Pataky  
High School Principal

**Thomas C. Snyder  
Elementary Principal**

April 22, 1997

**RECEIVED**

**APR 28 1997**

Federal Communication Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am writing in reference to the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide important discounts to educational institutions for all telecommunications connections within the classrooms of our schools.

As Superintendent of the Moshannon Valley School District, I can assure you that we are committed to providing our students with every possible opportunity to benefit from recent and ongoing technological developments. However, as a rural school district in an economically impoverished area, we simply cannot afford costs associated with the expansion of such opportunities to all of our students. The discounts offered in the Joint Boards recommendations are essential to our efforts to provide rural students with the same equal opportunity as that available in wealthier school districts.

I encourage you to support the Joint Boards recommendation and provide schools like Moshannon Valley with much needed discounts for services and/or internal connections essential to continued growth and expansion of these wonderful technological opportunities.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

**MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*James J. Lebda*  
James J. Lebda, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

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# Harmony Union School District

P.O. Box 279  
4008 Bohemian Highway  
Occidental, California 95465  
(707) 823-6220  
Fax (707) 823-8224

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Superintendent/Principal  
Harmony Elementary School  
Rick Brewer

April 22, 1997

**RECEIVED** Principal  
Salmon Creek Middle School  
Lauren Leach

Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Business Manager  
Regina Calvi

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Board of Trustees  
John Daly  
Victoria Johnston  
Cindy Madill  
Bruce McCann  
Mary Szecsey

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Harmony Union School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

*Cindy Madill*  
Cindy Madill  
Board President

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**RE: CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

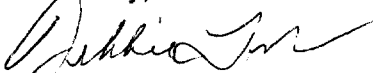
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Debbie Loob, Principal  
Dana Middle School  
13500 Aviation Blvd.  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 23, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

RECEIVED

APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Donegal  
School District

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Administrative Office  
366 South Market Avenue  
Mount Joy, PA 17552-2700

717 653-1447 • Fax 717 653-4088

I am the Business Manager of the Donegal School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

As the Business Manager of the district, I am a part of our organization's attempts to maintain a balanced budget that does not burden the local taxpayers while delivering a quality educational service to the local community.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

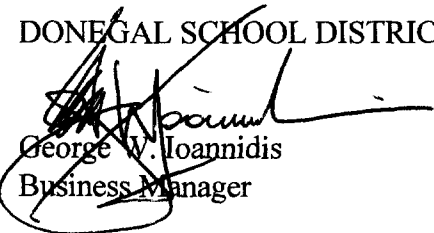
The discounts that we would receive would enable us to provide Internet access to all our students and members of our educational community. These discounts would also allow us to divert our diminishing monetary resources to the attention of our facilities and infrastructure that house our students and equipment.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

DONEGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

  
George W. Ioannidis  
Business Manager

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**RE: CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Vidda Brough, Principal  
Burnett Elementary School  
5403 W. 138<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

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APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**RE: CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

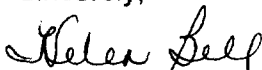
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Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

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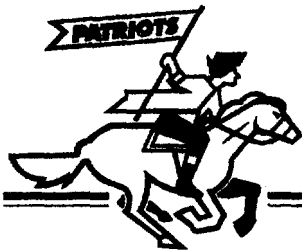
Thank you.

Sincerely,



Helen Bell  
Principal, Anza Elementary School  
5234 W. 120<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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# Washington Colony School District

130 East Lincoln Avenue • Fresno, California 93706  
209/ 233-0706 • FAX 209/ 233-9583

April 18, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Washington Colony Elementary School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

*Robert E. Dack*

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APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Jane Comitz*  
Jane Comitz, Principal  
Cabrillo Elementary School  
5309 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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# El Segundo Unified School District

641 SHELDON STREET • EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245  
(310) 615-2650 • FAX (310) 640-8272

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

SUPERINTENDENT

WILLIAM N. MANAHAN, Ed. D.

April 21, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 "M" Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHRISTINE M. SHERRILL  
President

CHRIS J. POWELL  
Vice President

MARGARET D. ECHEVARRIA  
Clerk

RICHARD A. CROXALL  
Member

KENNETH N. SCHOFIELD  
Member

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. As the Superintendent of Schools of the El Segundo Unified School District, I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and, more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC Commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

*Bill Manahan*

William N. Manahan, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

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WNM:rh

*Dedicated to providing students and the community  
with an optimum learning environment that prepares educated, productive,  
compassionate citizens to meet the challenges of a global society in the 21st Century.*



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Bradford J. Boston

President, SABRE Computer Services

April 24, 1997

Chairman Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St., NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED  
APR 28 1997  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt,

As a new company competing in the electronic distribution business, we at The SABRE Group are distressed with the direction the Access Charge Reform debate appears to be taking within the FCC. Within The SABRE Group, my division, SABRE Computer Services, provides infrastructure services, including telecommunications, to large customers including American Airlines. We believe that FCC plans to increase the Subscriber Line Charge and to create a new per-line charge, the FERC, while at the same time leaving price caps untouched is bad for business and bad for telecommunications competition in the United States. We urge you to reject any such plan.

Creation of the FERC, with a cost to business of a minimum of \$4.50 per line per month, would, according to our information, support the provision of advanced telecommunications functions to schools and libraries. While this social agenda may be appropriate for America, it is inappropriate for the FCC to levy a tax on business customers in the form of the FERC. If this social policy is the will of the people, then their elected representatives should determine the appropriate funding mechanism.

We are particularly concerned by the Commission's repeated long delays in adjusting the price caps formula to drive access charges down. Evidence presented to the FCC has demonstrated that the current formula allows incumbent LECs to collect more than \$3 billion in excess access charges annually. These excessive charges support exorbitant LEC earnings, exactly the opposite outcome a competitive local telecommunications environment would produce. A price caps adjustment is long overdue.

The Commission should not tolerate abusive monopoly pricing for any reason, and should not allow social policy desires to influence its decisions as America moves towards true telecommunications competition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad J. Boston", written over a horizontal line.

Bradford J. Boston  
President, SABRE Computer Services

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

*John Long*

RECEIVED

APR 28 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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April 24, 1997

Chairman Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW Room 814  
Washington DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt,

In Reference to: Ex Parte contact in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 96-262.

It has come to our attention that the FCC is considering a proposal to increase the business line Subscriber Line Charge and to impose a new charge, reportedly called a FERRO, of at least \$4.50 per line per month to support extending new telecommunications capabilities to schools, libraries and rural health care facilities. Concurrently, while the FCC is considering imposing these new costs on American businesses and adjusted costs to residential telephone users, we understand the Commission will not take the long overdue step of bringing rates closer to the true economic cost of local access services.

We urge you not to adopt the foregoing proposals which would, in effect, impose a new tax on American businesses, regardless of whether it is characterized as a "rate rebalancing" or "modification of rate structures." With all due respect, we believe that the imposition of such taxes is the business of the people's representatives, not appointed officials. In addition, nationwide educational and health care initiatives should be considered on a comprehensive basis by all interested authorities, not just the telecommunications matter by the FCC.

It is time for the Commission to reform its rules governing access charges, which amount to more than \$3 billion a year higher than they should be. All consumers, businesses as well as residential, deserve protection from excessive monopoly prices. The Administration's social policy agenda should be addressed in other ways and not get in the way of these reforms.

Sincerely,

*Janna L. Harvey*

Janna L. Harvey  
Director Telecommunications

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